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2015 Commissioner of Securities & Insurance Legislative Agenda

- 1) **Housekeeping Bill** – The Commissioner will propose non-substantive changes to statute that allow for greater efficiency and clarity in administering insurance and securities law.

Insurance

- 2) **Allow for Military Discount** – This bill would allow property & casualty insurance companies to offer consumers discounts based on military or veteran status, similar to “good driver” discounts.
- 3) **Revise Benefit Coverage for Emergency Responders** – Montana firefighters and emergency responders sometimes have difficulty in proving certain illnesses related to their work are contracted in the course of their duty. The bill would amend statute to presume that firefighters and emergency responders who contract certain illnesses do so in the course of their duty and allow for appropriate compensation.
- 4) **Prohibit Genetic Information Discrimination in Insurance** – State law currently protects consumers by prohibiting insurance companies from using and seeking genetic information in all lines of insurance except for life, disability income, and long-term care insurance. This bill would remove those exceptions.
- 5) **Privacy of Data from Event Data Recorders** – Legislation will clarify that data from event data recorders on automobiles are the sole property of the vehicle owner and may not be used without written consent.
- 6) **Allow for Electronic Delivery of Policies** – This bill will update Montana law to allow insurance policies to be delivered electronically by giving insureds the choice to have their policy be delivered by email, through a website, or by mail.
- 7) **Limit Look Back for Homeowner’s Insurance** – This legislation would prohibit insurers from using more than the last five years of an insured’s loss experience when determining rates or renewal for homeowner’s insurance.
- 8) **Close Captive Insurance Tax Loophole** – This legislation will create a level playing field by ensuring all captives are treated the same with regards to their premium tax payment.

- 9) **Revise and Continue Insure Montana** – The Commissioner is pursuing options that provide incentives for small businesses to continue to offer health insurance to their employees.
- 10) **Revise the Montana Comprehensive Health Association** – This bill would eliminate unnecessary provisions related to the administration of health plans through the Montana Comprehensive Health Association.
- 11) **Allow for “Major Natural Disaster Multi-Peril” Insurance** – This bill would define a new type of insurance: “major natural disaster multi-peril,” which will allow a bundled flood, earthquake, and landslide coverage policy to be sold through surplus lines.
- 12) **Adopt NAIC External Review Model Law** – This legislation will create transparency and accountability in the appeals process for healthcare treatment decisions by insurance companies by adopting the NAIC External Review Model Law. This will create a uniform structure of appeals for all health plan issuers, and prioritize appeals that may have life and death consequences.
- 13) **Adopt NAIC Public Adjuster Model Law** – Adopt the NAIC Public Adjuster Model Law to create stronger mechanisms such as contract requirements and standards of conduct to protect the public from unscrupulous public adjusters.
- 14) **Update Insurance Laws to Meet Accreditation Standards** – The Commissioner will propose changes to statute that will allow Montana to maintain its accreditation with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

Securities

- 15) **Strengthen Protections for Elderly Investors** – Montana seniors often fall victim to financial abuse. This bill would enhance penalties for crimes against seniors.